of Unit-3 (500 MW) Rihand Stage-II and Dhauliganga HEP (4x70 MW). Rajasthan has been allocated 16—25% allocation from unallocated quota in NR, 22 MW from unallocated quota of RAPP unit-3 & 4 and about 31 MW from the unallocated quota of NTPC stations in ER.

(c) The power supply position in Rajasthan during the last three years *i.e.* 2002-03 to 2004-05 was as under:

Year	Energy Requirement	Energy Availability	Energy Shortage		Peak Demand	Peak Met	Deficit	
	(MU)	(MU)	(MU)	(%)	(MW)	(MW)	(MW)	(%)
2002-03	25,917	25382	535	2.1	3,880	3,820	60	1.5
2003-04	26,611	26486	125	0.5	4,134	4,134	0	0
2004-05	29,207	28,974	233	0.8	4,786	4,414	372	7.8

(d) No new power project in Rajasthan has been cleared during the last three years.

(e) to (g) As per the Electricity Act, 2003, techno-economic clearance of Thermal Power Projects from CEA is not required. No proposal for setting up of hydro power projects in Rajasthan is presently under examination in CEA.

Closure of hydroelectric projects

†484. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering on liberalizing the rules relating to technical economic sanction for hydro projects;

(b) if so, the nature of impact it will have on the expansion of hydroelectric capacity;

(c) whether Government would revive the closed hydroelectric projects; and

(d) if so, the details of closed hydroelectric projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) At present, a generating company intending to set up a hydroelectric

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

station prepares and submits to Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for its techno-economic clearance a scheme estimated to involve a capital expenditure exceeding such sum as fixed by the Government from time to time. The CEA examines the scheme for according techno-economic clearance in accordance with its guidelines and procedures.

As per Section 8(1) of the Electricity Act, 2003, the Central Government has to notify that any generating company intending to set up a hydro generating station shall prepare and submit to the CEA for its concurrence a scheme estimated to involve a capital expenditure exceeding such sum as may be fixed by the Central Government from time to time by notification.

As per Section 8(2) of the Electricity Act, 2003, the authority shall, before concurring any scheme submitted to it under sub-section (1) have particular regard to, whether or not in its opinion:—

(i) the proposed river-works will prejudice the prospects for the best ultimate development of the river or its tributaries for power generation, consistent with the requirements of drinking water, irrigation, navigation, flood-control or other public purposes and for this purpose the Authority shall satisfy itself, after consultation with the State Government, the Central Government or such other agencies as it may deem appropriate, that an adequate study has been made of the optimum location of dams and other river-works; and

(ii) the proposed scheme meets the norms regarding dam design and safety.

Now, techno-economic clearance for hydel project is not necessary and instead concurrence of Central Electricity Authority is required under the Electricity Act, 2003.

The proposal to notify the limit of capital expenditure (beyond which concurrence of CEA would be required) under Section 8(1) of the Electricity Act, 2003 is under consideration of Ministry of Power. The CEA is also in the process of finalising guidelines for concurrence of hydroelectric projects under Section 8(2) of the Electricity Act, 2003.

(b) This will help in systematic development of hydroelectric potential and also attract private sector investment.

(c) As per information available with the CEA, no hydroelectric project with installed capacity of 25 MW and above has been closed.

(d) Question does not arise.

Diversion of surplus power

485. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Electricity Act provides that Captive Power Projects should use half of the power generated and the rest can be sold by bringing it into the grid for open access and distribution;

(b) if so, whether any instances have come to the notice of Government where captive power plants have diverted the surplus power for a higher cost to other unitended users; and

(c) whether any comprehensive guidelines been issued for captive power plants to connect their surplus power to the national grid?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Electricity Rules, 2005 notified by Central Government under the provisions of Electricity Act, 2003 require, *inter-alia*, that not less than fifty one per cent of the aggregate electricity generated in a captive power plant, determined on an annual basis, is consumed for the captive use.

(b) No, Sir.

Section 49 of the Act provides that where the Appropriate Regulatory Commission has allowed open access to certain consumers under section 42, such consumers may enter into an agreement with any person for supply or purchase of electricity on such terms and conditions (including tariff) as may be agreed upon by them. However, supply of surplus power to a distribution licensee is to be regulated by the appropriate Commission.

(c) The National Electricity Policy emphasizes that grid inter-connections for captive generators be facilitated as per section 30 of the Act on priority basis to enable captive generation to become available as distributed generation along the grid.